

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 AF-10 NEA-10
IO-13 DODE-00 COME-00 INT-05 GSA-02 STR-07 TRSE-00
OMB-01 L-03 OIC-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02
SS-15 NSC-05 H-01 /127 W
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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3063

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 2377

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ITC, MY

SUBJ: MALAYSIA INDUSTRY VIEWS ON THE UDALL-DECONCINI BILL

REF : LONDON 4467

1. DAVID WONG, SECRETARY-GENERAL STATES OF MALAYA CHAMBER OF MINES (WHICH REPRESENTS LARGE DREDGING INTERESTS) CALLED EMBOFF TO DISCUSS STATUS OF THE ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTED UDALL-DECONCINI BILL. HE MENTIONED THAT THE CHAMBER HAS ALREADY INSTRUCTED COURSON AT THE MALAYAN TIN BUREAU IN WASHINGTON TO SUPPORT THE BINGHAM BILL FOR RELEASE OF 5,000 TONS TO THE ITC AND THE MOLAHAN BILL FOR THE RELEASE OF 30,000 TONS ON THE MARKET. THE CHAMBER IS OPPOSED TO THE UDALL-DECONCINI BILL BECAUSE (A) THE 45,000 TON RELEASE IS LIKELY TO DEPRESS AN ALREADY DEPRESSED MARKET; (B) NOTHING EXCEPT VAGUE ASSURANCES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED THUS FAR, WITH RESPECT TO EITHER DEGREE OR THE METHOD OF COORDINATION OF THE RELEASE WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN WITH ITC. FURTHERMORE WONG EXPRESSED THE CONTINUING UNCERTAINTY CAUSED BY THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTRODUCTION OF THE LARGE NUMBERS OF BILLS CONCERNING GSA STOCKPILE RELEASE IN THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS. HE STATED THAT THIS UNCERTAINTY WAS CREATING DOWNWARD PRICE PRESSURES ON TIN AND CAUSING DAMAGE TO THE TIN INDUSTRY. HE STRESSED THAT THIS ISSUE IS OF THE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO THE INDUSTRY AND WILL BE RAISED DURING THE APRIL ITC MEETING IN LONDON. HE STATED THAT INDUSTRY SOURCES WIDELY BELIEVED THAT THE UDALL-DECONCINI BILL

REPRESENTED A DELIBERATE MOVE ON THE PART OF U.S. CONSUMERS
(NOT THE USG) TO FOREC TIN PRICES DOWN PRIOR TO THE APRIL ITC
MEETING.

2. EMBOFF ASSURED WOND THAT THE ADMINISTRATION POSITION WAS TO
COORDIANTE TIN DESPOSAL WITH THE ITC AND THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES.
IN THIS CONNECTION. IT WOULD BE QUITE HELPFUL FOR US DURING THIS
CRUCIAL PERIOD TO RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION AS TO (A) THE PROGRESS
OF THE BILLS MENTIONED ABOVE AND (B) GUIDANCE AS TO THE U.S.
POSITION AT THE NEXT ITC MEETING.
MILLER

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